

PRECEDENCE

CLASSIFICATION

(DAC) 1189 GDS

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-261-2-54-0

FROM: *76177K* THE SITUATION ROOM *39*

TO: Jerry Bremer for. Sec. ...

INFO:

*Kissinger*  
*/Moscow/*

RELEASED BY: *EO*

MMCCENTER USE ONLY

LDX *2* PAGES *2*

TTY CITE

DTG

*280012*

TOR: *280039*

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

*O.O.B.*

*Best copy available.*

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

JUN 27 PM 9:57

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-261-2-54-0

A14 Sunday, May 12, 1968 THE WASHINGTON POST

# Foe Shells Major U.S. Base

SAIGON, May 17—From five to 15 enemy rockets hit the U.S. Army headquarters complex at Long Binh and Bien Hoa, about 12 miles north of Saigon, Saturday night. Casualties and damage were not immediately known.

Military sources said the U.S. Command is reinforcing the complex in anticipation of an enemy assault. The area includes the Army's Vietnam headquarters, the U.S. 2d Field Force base and a large U.S. airbase.

The sources said the Vietcong 5th Division, which sustained heavy casualties in an unsuccessful offensive against Bien Hoa last February, reportedly has received reinforcements and is again on the move.

About 1000 men of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) have been pulled back from positions along the Cambodian border to the area just northeast of the capital, to protect the military complex, according to military sources.

## Fight for Mountain

Allied units continued their drive Saturday to wrest Dongapbia Mountain from a dug-in enemy force. Members of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division pushed to within 300 yards of the peak of the 3000-foot mountain before digging in for the night.

The paratroopers, along with U.S. Marines and South Vietnamese soldiers, have been trying to take the mountain on the Laotian border, near the Ashau Valley, for a week.

At least 250 enemy soldiers have been killed defending the mountain, which is honeycombed with caves and tunnels and is believed to be a major enemy supply base.

Since last Sunday, when 2800 allied troops began an operation into the Ashau Valley, 301 allied soldiers have been killed. Incomplete reports on U.S. casualties listed 47 Americans killed and 300 wounded, including 23 killed and 223 wounded in the battle for Dongapbia Mountain.

## Other Clashes

Elsewhere, U.S. troops backed by helicopters reported killing 38 North Vietnamese soldiers 22 miles

northwest of Saigon on Friday, with no U.S. losses.

American and North Vietnamese troops battled in close quarters for an hour late Saturday in the central highlands eight miles west of Konhau. U.S. 4th Infantry soldiers reported killing 40 of the enemy while suffering two dead and five wounded. A number of North Vietnamese soldiers were cut down while trying to climb on top of a damaged American tank.

U.S. infantrymen killed 30 enemy soldiers in three days of fighting near Tan Ky, south of Danang. U.S. losses were given as seven killed and 32 wounded.

Enemy ground fire Friday downed a U.S. observation helicopter in the Central Highlands, six miles southeast of Dakla, wounding two crewmen.

The U.S. Command reported that units of the Americal Division, backed by air and artillery strikes, had killed 18

American sources quoted by UPI said Saturday that B-52s have carried out their first raids against suspected enemy sanctuaries in Cambodia, which officially is neutral. The planes hit the jungle area where the borders of South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia meet.

## Thieu Asks Meeting With Nixon To Align U.S., Saigon Policies

THIEU, From A1

U.S. officials, who also chose to speak anonymously, declared yesterday that the over-all question of South Vietnam's political future was subject to negotiation. They specifically included the question of a coalition government.

But highly placed Saigon authorities said today: "A coalition government imposed by the Communists by force, by political pressure, by military pressure, without free elections—that coalition government cannot be accepted by us."

In no case, these sources said, would the Saigon government accept imposition of a coalition government before nationwide elections. Reporters present agreed the strictures were absolute, that the government was adamantly opposed to Communist representation in the Saigon cabinet before presidential elections.

After such elections, scheduled for September, 1971, the newly elected President would be free to choose his own cabinet, Communist or otherwise, the officials said.

Since Secretary of State Rogers' arrival Wednesday, newsmen have asked repeatedly whether South Vietnam's 1967 constitution would have to be amended before the Communist National Liberation Front could run candidates. The constitution forbade any form of Communist activity. A related question frequently asked is whether

the NLF would have to change its name to field candidates.

Finally, addressing themselves to these questions, Saigon officials said, no one in Saigon is considering amendment of the constitution. "If we had to do so, it would involve many things, require very hard preparation by the National Assembly, and among the people," the sources said.

On NLF participation in subsequent elections, the officials said the following:

Members of the Front can run for office as individuals. They cannot list themselves on any ballot as members of the Communist Party. The NLF could participate, but not as a Communist party.

The NLF could continue to call itself the NLF's and run candidates, but not while openly espousing communism. Up to now, the Saigon government, with Thieu as its spokesman, had insisted that the NLF change its name before offering a slate in forthcoming elections.

The Saigon sources, referring to future elections, said they did not believe "the NLF is stupid enough" to advertise its communism. Instead, they suggested, the NLF might keep its present name, which has "a more democratic non-Communist sound."

The officials drew a fine diplomatic line between Mr. Nixon's eight-point peace proposal, the six points of Saigon and the ten points of the NLF. Mr. Nixon's eight points, they said, were recommended

courses of action, "concrete steps."

But Saigon and the NLF had enunciated only principles.

SAIGON'S task now is to refine its six principles into concrete steps to match those set forth by Mr. Nixon, but to do so in a way that leave room for negotiation, the sources said.

## Rogers Takes Tour In Mekong Delta

SAIGON, May 17 (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State William F. Rogers, guarded by helicopter gunships and American troops, flew by helicopter over Vietcong territory today to visit a showpiece pacification area in the Mekong Delta.

Wearing an open shirt and dark civilian trousers, the smiling Secretary chuckled children under the chin, shook hands all around, chatted with village elders and drank coconut milk.

He flew out of Saigon after a morning of briefings at the sprawling U.S. headquarters known as the Pentagon East. Rogers returned to Saigon late in the afternoon and will make another field trip Sunday, although the area he will visit was withheld for security reasons.

The secretary's armed helicopter was accompanied by 10 others, including two carrying newsmen and four Cobra gunships that can fire 6000 rounds a minute. In addition, an official said, a company of U.S. infantrymen was in the air at all times.

TODAY FROM 10 AM TO

Come In Monday From 9 AM

FURNITURE BARGAIN, INC. 81

# Sell it Like SUN

We Get Bargains! We Give Bargains! Save \$\$\$\$ On—

- New Furniture
- Display Furniture
- Floor Sample Furniture
- Some Seconds
- Special Purchases
- Discontinued Items

Out Goes All 'As in Our CLEAR!

# Save 25%

16,000 Sq. Ft. at 1

Values so great you have to see them! Most make furnishings in every room most popular styles... come so slight Many discontinued items are included!

Mix and match full size and twin size box springs and mattresses

Valued to \$39.99

\$22.00

known brand names

Three complete rooms of modern furniture

Includes living room, bedroom with mattress and box springs, and stylish dinette.

All for

\$399

TABLE ARM SECTIONAL

Modern, three piece, in temporary, as is, limited quantity, please view

Was \$289.99

\$88.88

- Wine •
- 449.99 Admiral 20" lat console T.V. ....
  - 89.99 Decorator lampshade Divided, con
  - 79.99 Large assortment of 9x12 tile
  - 79.99 Modern upholstered ottoman, leather
  - 19.99 Assorted colors of odd metal din
  - 29.99 Stylish rectangular decorative table
  - 69.99 Odd lot of bedcases headboards in
  - 69.99 Early American desk, white finish, A
  - 349.99 Union Brand French Provincial fa
  - 399.99 3 pc. modern sectional with built in
  - 199.99 French Provincial Sofa in gold fin
  - 299.99 Trademarked with self cleaning
  - 39.99 Apple and orange headboard with
  - 139.99 Walnut lamp with light base for d
  - 49.99 Provincial-style chair
  - 79.99 Linoleum floor, White French Prov
  - 39.99 Early American maple chair
  - 239.99 Heavy glass covered, 2 cushioned
  - 199.99 Braided runner buffet in white fin

House full of st

67.77